

### Committee to Elect Randall Olsen P.O. Box 66 • Ottawa, IL 61350 www.electrandallolsen.com

PEDERAL ELECTION

2014 HAY -7 AN 11: 25

OFFICE OF SELECTION

April 20, 40

Federal Election Commission Washington, D.C. 20463

Pertaining to complaint #MUR 6804

Dear Mr. Jordan:

In response to your letter dated April 8, 2014.

The complainant assumes my campaign had reached the \$5000 limit requiring filing of IRS form 8872, while, in fact, I had not reached that level. The report was actually being done by my treasurer on the day I received his complaint. I have confirmed by phone and you have at this time received the finished report.

Prior to the campaign starting last August, my cousin, who is not a computer professional, and I sat down to build a website. I bought a couple site names from GoDaddy and paid hosting fees and we started. I wasn't happy with the results. When another volunteer mentioned he had a friend that built websites, and who would be willing to volunteer his time. Well, I jumped at the opportunity. He mentioned recently, when I asked, that he has a small amount of money invested (About \$60.00) in Nation Builder. I expect he will use that as a donation-in-kind. I have not received a "donation in kind receipt" yet because the website is not finished.

Concerning the campaign literature and flyers in the order they were presented in the complaint.

- 1. The flyer (FEC#1) notifying of the four (4) scheduled fundraising events was corrected almost immediately after it was published on Facebook. I was notified of the need for a boldly lined box for the disclaimer message already there.
- 2. The first handout (FEC#2) I had printed was put together before I actually announced my candidacy and had a job to pay for them. I printed a hundred of them and they were given away very



quickly. I didn't know I needed a disclaimer on campaign material I was paying for and handing out myself. If I print anymore of these handouts I will print the disclaimer prominently.

- 3. The pharmacy bags (FEC#3) are still in use. I paid for them. There is a stamp ordered and as soon as it arrives we will put the disclaimer on each bag.
- 4. I am most troubled about their complaint about by lawn signs (FEC#4). I have 300 of them and every single one of them has the disclaimer in a box in the lower right corner. I've enclosed pictures of the sign. The disclaimer is plainly visible on the Facebook page, and is visible when you download the picture from Facebook. In the picture you sent me, it appears to have been cropped out and used to make the point my lawn signs don't include the required disclaimer.
- 5. The second handout (FEC#5) does not have the disclaimer. Its omission was an error on my part. I have labels being printed now, and expect by the time you read this, they will be in place on the about 150 rack cards I have left. When I reorder these, I will have the disclaimer printed at the bottom of the back page.
- 6. The banner had the disclaimer added shortly after this picture was taken last September.

I have included several items:

#1 - Flyer for first four fundraisers with blocked disclaimer

#2 - reprint from FB page showing disclaimer

#3 - Close up of lawn sign showing disclaimer

#4 - Close up of banner showing disclaimer

#5 - Banner

Respectfully,

Randall W. Olsen, Candidate

March 25, 2014

Maximilian Halm (Complainant)

La Salle, IL 61301

Randall Olsen (Respondent)
Randall Olsen for Congress
PO Box 66
Ottawa, IL 61350

2014 APR -4 FM 1: 12

OFFICE CONTROL CONTROL

MUR# 6804

**FEC Complaints Division:** 

I, Maximilian Halm, Place, La Salle, IL 61301, file this complaint against Randall Olsen and Randall Olsen for Congress, PO Box 66, Ottawa, IL 61350.

#### Facts at Issue:

Mr. Randall Olsen announced his candidacy for Illinois' 16th Congressional District on August 16, 2013 and filed his "statement of candidacy " with the Federal Elections Commission (FEC) on September 3, 2013 for the office of United State Representative for Illinois' 16th Congressional District. Since announcing his candidacy, Mr. Olsen has actively campaigned for the office he seeks. During that time, the campaign committee, Randall Olsen for Congress, (The Committee) has incurred expenses, including but not limited to, travel expenses, campaign materials including yard signs and flyers, printing expenses and expenses for the construction of The Committee's website www.electrandalolsen.com. The Committee incurs monthly expenses from "Nation Builder" for hosting the content on www.electrandalolsen.com.

Since announcing his candidacy, Randall Olsen has actively sought political contributions for the purpose of financing his campaign. Mr. Olsen has held or will be holding multiple fundraisers with donations designated to The Committee. Mr. Olson has held fundraisers on the following days:

- February 27, 2014;
- March 6, 2014;
- March 11, 2014;
- March 13, 2014.

Lastly, The Committee has purchased ad space for the purpose of distributing as a public communication to customers of North Pharmacy, Loves Park, IL.

#### Rules at Issue:

- 11 CFR § 100,26
- 11 CFR § 100.3
- 11 CFR § 104.1

#### Application of the Law to the Facts

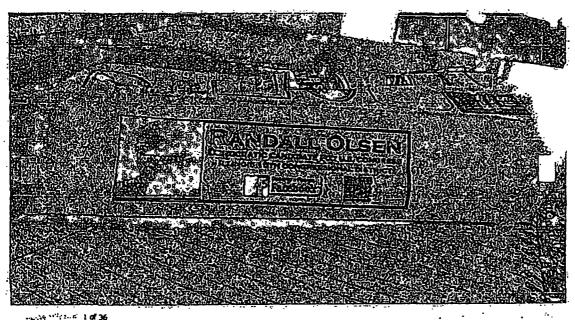
Under 11 CFR § 100.3 an individual seeking office becomes a candidate when that individual received \$5,000.00 in campaign contributions or has made campaign expenditures in the aggregate of \$5,000.00. A principle campaign committee becomes a political committee when that individual becomes a candidate pursuant to 11 CFR § 100.3. In accordance with 11 CFR § 100.3 a candidate and his authorized committee must file complete and accurate reports on time with the FEC.

Randall Olsen has credibly aggregated \$5,000.00 in campaign contributions. Since announcing his candidacy in August of 2013, Mr. Olsen has had 7 months to raise funds for The Committee. In addition, Mr. Olsen has held 4 fundraisers in the last month alone. Since announcing his candidacy, The Committee has failed to file the October Quarterly, Year-End, and pre-primary reports with the FEC in violation of 11 CFR § 104.1.

In the alternative, Randall Olsen has credibly aggregated \$5,000.00 in campaign expenditures with travel expenses, website construction, website design, website content hosting fees, the opening of a campaign PO Box, campaign materials, and printing costs for nominating petitions, campaign literature, campaign ads on prescription pharmacy bags and campaign yard signs. Despite credibly incurring over \$5,000.00 in campaign expenditures, The Committee has failed to file an October Quarterly, Year-End, and Pre-Primary reports with the FEC in violation of 11 CFR § 104.1.

Under 11 CFR § 110.11(a) all public communications, as defined in 11 CFR 100.26, made by a political committee, must include disclaimers. Under 11 CFR § 110.11(b) (1) communications require a disclaimer indicating that a principle political committee paid for the communication. Under 11 CFR § 110.11(c) (2) (ii) printed communications require a disclaimers must be contained in a printed box. Randall Olsen's yard signs are intended to provide a communication regarding his candidacy for Illinois' 16th Congressional District. Randall Olsen's yard signs do not contain a disclaimer in a preprinted box in violation of 11 CFR § 110.11(c) (2) (ii). In addition, Randall Olsen's ad on prescription bags (attached) at North Park Pharmacy in Loves Park does not include a political disclaimer. In the alternative, if The Committee did not buy this ad space then it was an in-kind contribution from North Park Pharmacy which The Committee failed to report by failing to file any report with the FEC since Randall Olsen filed his statement of candidacy.

Lastly, Randall Olsen's flyer (attached) is intended to communicate & advocate for the election of Randall Olsen. Under 11 CFR § 110.11(c) (2) (ii) printed communications require a disclaimers must be contained in a printed box. This flyer in question does not contain a disclaimer in a pre printed box in violation of 11 CFR § 110.11(c) (2) (ii).



8

Randall Claen for Congress: 16th Like This Page': February 25

Now appearing on prescription bags at No Pharmacy in Loves Park.

Rendrik Chan for Consess . Illinois Little

Like · Comment · Share

14 people the thic

Man in

Michael Ortifeb Randel Ober. Your pr a healthy Direct 16th

Re - Reply - 2 · Yestarday at 12:48a

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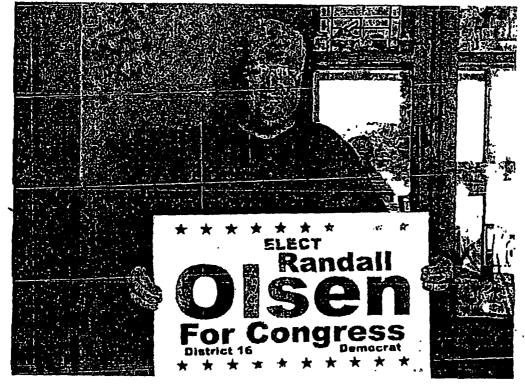
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John Galbo QR code, Noci

will imprint remaining to stamper





Randall Olsen Follow - Merch 15

I feet like Stove Martin in "The Jerk," yelin phone books are here! The new phone be but for me it's "The new political yard sign the new political yard store are here!"

Uka · Share

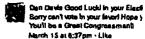
35 people like this.

Selecta C

View 24 more comments

Don Leipold We can get your signs So. Otawa Twp.

Mench 15 at 7:39pm - Like



Randall Olsen No prob Oan, You at diahtd so no guilt for you. Thanks it wished though,

March 15 at 9;42pm - Like - 1

Pat Arwood Katawaid (ii be back h few weeks and its willing to help or

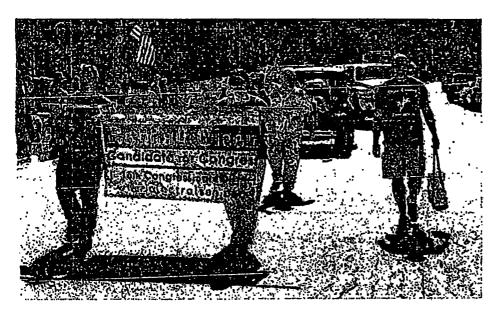
Merch 15 at 10:34pm · Like

Barb Slann Id fike one for the west ( March 15 at 10:35pm · Like

Mary R Hell Good luck to you Rends totally see you holding a position in

disclaimer is cropped out disclaimer is cropped out of original preture.

FEC # 4





Walking with the Ogle County Democrats in Stillman Valley, Beautiful afternoon,

... an in the 28 of 36

# Randall OLSEN

## FOR CONGRESS

Democratic Candidate for the 16th District of Illinois





# **FUNDRAISERS**

Where we will be:

February 27th, 2014	Ogle County	
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Abraham's Restaurant	
	1127 N. 7th St. Rochelle, IL	
	Includes: Unlimited hors d'oeuvres and soft drink	
March 6th, 2014	Winnebago County	
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Sam's Ristorante	
	6075 E. Riverside. Rockford, IL	
	includes: Pizza, salad, soft drink	
March 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Dekalb County	-
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Fatty's Bar & Grill	
	1312 W. Lincoln Ave. Dekalb, IL	
	Includes: Unlimited hors d'oeuvres and soft drink	
March 13", 2014	Boone County	
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM	VFW	
	1310 W. Lincoln Ave. Belvidere, IL	
	Includes: Unlimited hors d'oeuvres and soft drink	

Cost: \$20 per person, \$30 per couple. Includes food, dilink, and face time

Open to the public - Walk-ins welcome

Donations over \$100 will get you a picture, public mention, and face time with the candidate.

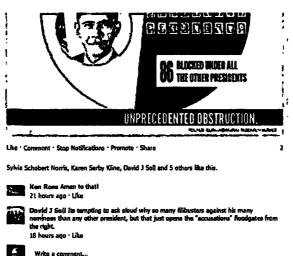
Please RSVP with the location you plan to attend to disfcb@gmail.com

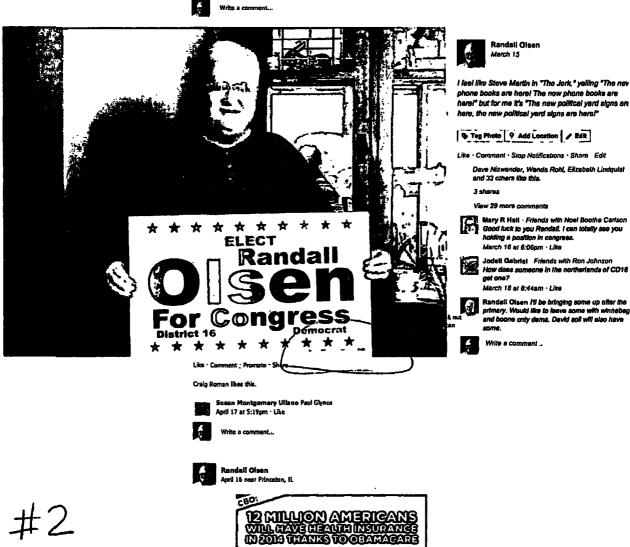
If you are unable to attend, but would still like to help, please go to <a href="http://www.electrobsen.com">http://www.electrobsen.com</a> or send your donations payable to:

Campaign to Elect Randall Olsen P.O. Box 66, Ottawa, IL 61350

Paid for by Committee to Elect Rendell Olsen A copy of our report, filed with the Federal Election Commission, is (or will be) evailable on the FEC's website (<u>www.fcs.co</u>r).

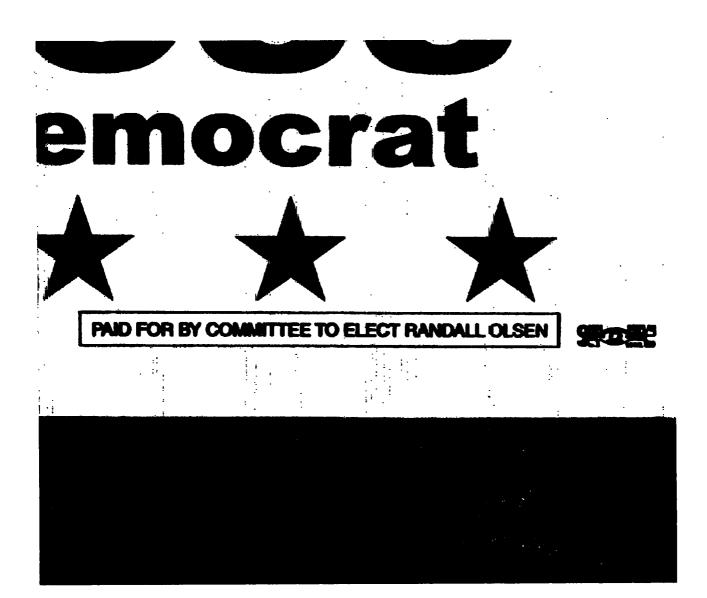




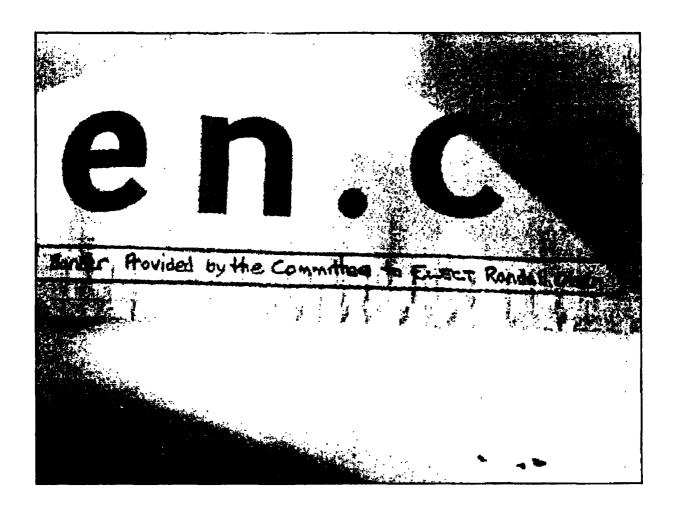


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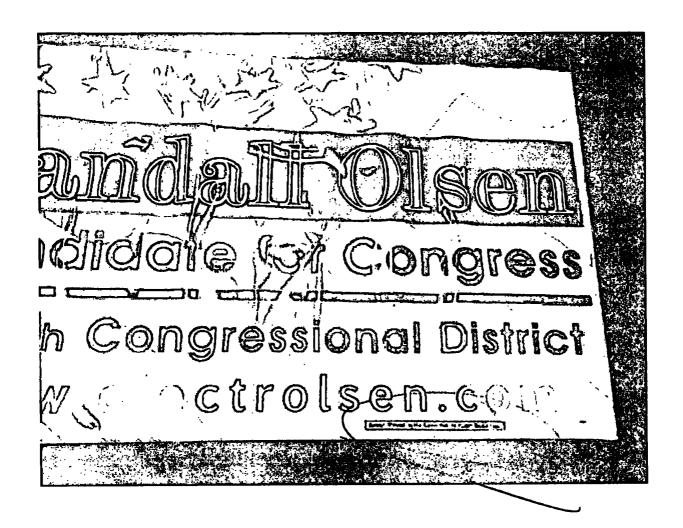
ALMOST 4 TIMES THE NUMBER



#3



#4



#5